

Request for Reconsideration:

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the following remarks and the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers.

Remarks:

1. Rejections.

Claims 1-16 stand rejected *provisionally* under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type, double patenting in view of the following claims of seven (7) of Applicant's co-pending patent applications: (1) claims 1-81 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/601,669; (2) claims 1-40 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/601,674; (3) claims 1-29 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/601,670;¹ (4) claims 1-55 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/601,675; (5) claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/743,426; (6) claims 1-10 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/743,440; and (7) claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/743,435. Applicant respectfully traverses.

2. Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection.

As noted above, claims 1-16 stand rejected *provisionally* under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of co-pending patent applications, U.S. Patent Application Nos. 10/601,669; 10/601,674; 10/601,675; 10/743,426; 10/743,440; and 10/743,435, and under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of Patent No. US 6,993,884 B2. Therefore, Applicant is enclosing six (6) Terminal Disclaimers to Obviate a Provisional Double Patenting Rejection Over a Pending "Reference" Application, one (1) Terminal Disclaimer to Obviate a Double Patenting Rejection Over a "Prior" Patent, a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b), and a check including the amount of \$910.00 covering the terminal disclaimer fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) (Code 1814). In the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicant and those determined by the PTO, please charge or credit such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375. In view of the enclosed Terminal Disclaimers, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the obviousness-type double patenting rejections of claim 1-16 of this application.

Conclusion:

Applicant maintains that the above-captioned patent application now is in condition for allowance, and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that

¹ Because the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) now has issued this application as Patent No. US 6,993,884 B2, Applicant no longer deems this rejection as a "provisional" rejection.

the prosecution of this application may be furthered by discussing the application, in person or by telephone, with Applicant's representatives, we would welcome the opportunity to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

By:

James B. Arpin
Registration No. 33,470

Dated: May 2, 2006

Baker Botts L.L.P.
The Warner, Suite 1300
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2400
Tel: (202) 639-7700
Fax: (202) 639-7890

JBA/djw

Enclosures